Edward Southern

Send Flowers



SOUTHERN, Edward Michael Edward was born in St. John, NB on January 14, 1943 and passed away on April 17, 2009 at Vancouver General Hospital. He was predeceased by his father, John Edward Southern, his mother, Emilia (Millie) Foster/Southern and her second husband, Douglas Foster. Ed is survived by his life partner of 33 years, Darrell Zakreski and his supporting family; his uncle Delphis Doucet, Dalhousie, NB; special cousin, Lorraine (Edgar) Nadeau of McKenzie, BC, longtime soulmate, Patricia Vanasse of Montreal; as well as numerous friends and cousins in Calgary, Montreal, Toronto, Port Coquitlam, Vancouver, Dalhousie, NB, Bathurst, NB and Kiev, Ukraine. He graduated in 1961 from Dalhousie School of Commerce. Throughout the course of Ed's life, he had various business ventures. He began his career in Gabon, Africa with an international rail company. He returned to Canada and joined the Alberta oil and gas professional recruitment industry. He owned and operated numerous Calgary entertainment venues and participated in commercial real estate development. Ed worked with E.R. Squibb & sons as a Credit Manager in Montreal, moved to Saskatoon in 1975 with AMOK Ltd. as Manager of Personnel Administration. Moving later to Calgary in 1977, Ed was involved in professional recruiting for the oil and gas industry until the mid 1980's. When Ukraine obtained its' independence in 1991, Ed took

an interest in Ukraine and was presented an opportunity to further develop oil and gas reserves in the Ukraine. Over the course of this project, Ed was appointed Executive Vice President for Kroes Energy Inc. His dedication and vision drove him to become very instrumental in building a solid relationship with the Ukrainian government which resulted in his appointment to Honorary Consul of Ukraine for Alberta for a number of years. While spending several months of every year in Kiev, he became active in the Ukrainian Roman Catholic Church, St. Alexander's Cathedral. Ed took on a lead role as Choir Director and fundraised for an international quality pipe organ. Even though Ed was not of Ukrainian origin, he loved the country, its' history, culture and people. Ed had many interests that included extensive world travel, reading, television and immensely enjoying his coffee and cigarette. He was known for his direct, quick witted and humorous personality. He had numerous friends from many parts of the world and was quick to make friends wherever he travelled and worked. With the support of the BC Transplant Society, Ed was gifted with a successful lung transplant in Fall of 2007. Donations in his memory may be forwarded to the Solid Organ Transplant Clinic at 2775 Laurel St, Vancouver, BC V5Z 1M9. Special thanks and deep gratitude to Dr. Yee, Dr. Levy, Dr. Wilson and all the staff including the ICU Department that supported Ed during his hospital stays at the Vancouver General Hospital along with Dr. Waters and the Victoria Royal Jubilee Hospital staff. Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at 2:00 pm at St. Andrew's Cathedral in Victoria. Ed will be laid to rest in Calgary at a private service. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.mccallbros.com. 536824



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MEMORIES & CONDOLENCES

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May 1, 2009

Dear Darrell, I was very sad to hear about Ed's death and will always be grateful for my aunt Dolores Leier's tip on looking him up when I first arrived in Kyiv in July 2000. Ed made my stay so memorable. What a great guy! I am so happy that he was my friend and that he will be well surrounded by all those who have preceded him. Sincere sympathy and friendship

Valerie Sirois

April 23, 2009

We were so sorry to hear of your loss. The thoughts of many are with you at this time of sorrow. The Matchett Family; Donald Matchett, Susan Bourque, Martha Maloney, Sheila Schaetzle, Dawn Matchett, Nina Maloney

April 23, 2009

Darrell you and Ed were considered part of our family we always called Ed our other brother with the other lung. Colleen will miss him deeply and we are all very sad to hear of his passing. Our hearts and love go out to you. Take care of yourself.

Kellie Fawcett

April 23, 2009

Darrell and family

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Ed was a good friend.Our trip to Ukraine with you,Ed,Wes and Sylvia will not be forgotten.Ed. was one to keep us going,like having a beer outdoors with wrap around blankets for us all,there were lots off laughs which made it so much easier.

God Grant Ed Eternal Rest.

Vichnaya Pamiat.

Morris & Albina Pidskalny

April 22, 2009

To Darrell and all of Ed's family and friends My heart goes out to you all. Ed was a very giving and caring man and I am sad to think we wont be seing him on this earth again ...but I want to remind you all that Ed was a man of faith, and I know from my talks with him that he did not believe death was the end of life, just a change to a new life. Ed did a lot of good for other people, and didnt talk about it, like paying for the pipe organ lessons of a talented but poor student in Ukraine.. Ed did a lot for the church, including restoring the pipe organ at the Cathedral in Kiev. This Cathedral had been closed under the Communists and used as a granary etc. When the people got it back, it was in terrible shape, and so was the organ .I was there with Ed when the organ was blessed and re-dedicated ,with much fanfare and ceremony, and packed with grateful people .The people there had a high regard for Ed, because they knew it was his energy and dedication which restored the Cathedral and the Organ..The thing that impressed me about Ed was his optimism, and that, he said ,sprang from his faith .We had some great talks , which I know someday we're going to continue. Keep smiling Ed..see you again sometime.

Frank Lynch

April 21, 2009

Darrell and Ed's Family/Friends

My thoughts are with you at this time-I'm saddened of Ed's passing,I thought I knew him very well however the Obituary tells me many special things about Ed and his talents. Special friends are never forgotten and Ed never will be.

gnida nick

April 21, 2009

Ed was "one of a kind". Ed was bright, inquisitive and had a "chutzpa" that did not quit. Ed usually managed to stir things up and delighted in watching events unfold. My fondest memories are of time spent in the Ukraine with Ed. He loved the Ukraine and her people and delighted in showing visitors just how special Ukraine was to him. He was extremely lucky to have a life partner like you Darrell and I know he was very appreciative of that fact. Ed will be sadly missed by many.

Dzintra Ziemelis

April 21, 2009

I am deeply saddened by the news of Ed's passing. I have many fond memories of my time with him. Rest in peace, Ed.

Ted Thoroughgood

April 21, 2009

Darrell, and everyone, my thoughts are with you at this time. I'm remembering the good times when we joked about who was older, etc. This obituary was very written. He would be proud.

Garry Krausher

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